

- (c) If so, the details thereof; and
 (d) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) There are various parameters to assess achievements of PSUs. A summary of achievements made by Central PSUs in terms of financial parameters during last 10 years is given in Table 1.13 at pages 19 and 20 in Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey, 1995-96 laid in Parliament on 5.5.1997.

- (b) No, Sir.
 (c) Does not arise.
 (d) Improving the performance of public sector enterprises is a continuous process. Some of the measures taken by the Government to boost the performance of PSUs include signing of MOUs with public enterprises, periodic performance review by the administrative Ministries, delegation of enhanced powers to Board of Directors and their professionalisation, reduction of surplus manpower through VRS, technology upgradation etc. Government have also decided to grant more managerial and financial autonomy to 9 PSUs coined 'Nav-Ratna', apart from enhancing financial power to PSUs Board to incur capital expenditure.

Election of Persons having Criminal Background

527. KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to prevent persons having criminal background from contesting the elections;
 (b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and
 (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) section 8 (a) of the Representation of people Act, 1951 disqualifies a person on conviction for certain offences mentioned in the section. This section also provides that any person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years shall be disqualified from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a period of six years since his release. In view of these provisions, there is, at present, no proposal to amend election laws in this regard.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Cotton Spinning Mills in U.P.

528. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR': Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the places in Uttar Pradesh where cotton spinning mills are situated and the production capacity thereof;

- (b) whether the cotton spinning mills in the State are utilising their full capacity;
 (c) if not, the reasons thereof; and
 (d) the steps taken by the Government for smooth functioning of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d) The cotton/man-made fibre spinning mills in Uttar Pradesh are mainly in Allahabad, Azamgarh, Raebareilly, Hathras, Mirzapur, Bulandshahar, Etawah, Maghar, Bijnor, Amroha (Moradabad), Baheri (Distt. Bareilly), Mau-Aima (Distt. Allahabad), Mahmoodabad Sitapur, Bahadurganj, Kampil (Distt. Farrukabad), Fathepur, Mathura, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Dehradun, Nainital, Sahibabad, Modinagar, Faizabad, Barabanki, Jhansi, Hardoi, Ballia, Jaunpur and Banda. The installed capacity of 64 mills as on 31.3.97 is 1898318 spindles, 6072 rotors and 11567 looms. The private sector spinning mills other than those lying closed are generally utilising their capacity.

Government has set up the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to enquire into the working of sick industrial companies and to prepare and sanction, as appropriate, schemes for their revival.

Allocation for Handloom Sector

529. SHRI N. DENNIS:

SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating making a higher allocation for the handloom sectors;
 (b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) whether the Government also propose to formulate any scheme for modernisation of looms in addition to the provision for such modernisation in the exiting Handloom Development Centres;
 (d) if so, the total amount released by the Union Government to the State Governments for implementation of various schemes in the handloom sector during the Eighth Plan;
 (e) to what extent production of handloom cloth had increased up during 1996-97; and
 (f) the allocation of funds to be made for handloom sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As against the expenditure of Rs. 87.55